

## Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching

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## President Bush Names Two Michigan Teachers Among Nation's Top Educators

## Milan High School and Harper Woods Secondary School Teachers Named Recipients of 2005 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching

Media Note: Awardees are in Washington, DC May 2-5. For more information, to arrange interviews or receive digital photographs, call contact.

**Washington, DC**—President George W. Bush is honoring mathematics teacher Cindy Hasselbring, from Milan High School, and science teacher June Teisan, from Harper Woods Secondary School, with the 2005 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, the Nation's highest honor for teaching in these fields. Hasselbring and Teisan are among only 100 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade teachers nationwide to receive the prestigious award.

In a citation given to Hasselbring and Teisan, President Bush commended them "for embodying excellence in teaching, for devotion to the learning needs of the students, and for upholding the high standards that exemplify American education at its finest."

As Awardees, they each receive a \$10,000 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF), the independent federal agency that administers the awards program on behalf of the White House, and an all expenses-paid trip to Washington, DC for a week of celebratory events and professional development activities.

In a letter to Awardees, President Bush said "Math and science are critical components of America's technological and competitive strength. Through my American Competitiveness Initiative, my Administration is working to advance American innovation and support the efforts of teachers by increasing investments in research and development, promoting education in math and science, and encouraging entrepreneurship and technological advances."

Established by Congress in 1983, the annual presidential awards program identifies highly qualified mathematics and science teachers in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Territories, and the U.S. Department of Defense Schools. This year's recipients—recommended for the award by a panel of leading mathematicians, scientists, and educators are 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade teachers.

"These teachers exemplify what President Bush's American Competitiveness Initiative aims to achieve by raising the bar for math and science education for all students, who are our future leaders of innovation," said John H. Marburger, III, Director of The Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President.

The National Science Foundation is an independent federal agency that supports fundamental research and education across all fields of science and engineering with an annual budget of nearly \$5.58 billion. NSF funds reach all 50 states through grants to nearly 2,000 universities and institutions. NSF also awards over \$200 million in professional and service contracts yearly. For more information, visit www.paemst.org.